

Message Text

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11
ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 IO-10 /091 W
----- 112391

P R 120700Z APR 75
FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7542
INFO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY SAIGON
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
USLO PEKING
USMISSION UN
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 4366

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR VS VN ID
SUBJECT: MEETING WITH ACTING FONMIN ON PRESIDENT FORD'S SPEECH;
VIETNAM SITUATION

REF: A. JAKARTA 4321
B. STATE 082184

1. I WAS ABLE TO MEET APRIL 12 WITH ACTING FONMIN (DEFENSE MINISTER) GENERAL PANGGABEAN TO FOLLOW UP DELIVERY OF NOTE BY DCM AS REPORTED REF A. PANGGABEAN WAS ACCCOMPANIED BY DEPLU D. C. DJAJADININGRAT; BOTH HAD CLEARLY READ PRESIDENT'S SPEECH AND OUR NOTE ON VIET NAM SITUATION. (REFTELS)

2. I DREW PANGGABEAN'S ATTENTION TO THREE POINTS IN SPEECH OF PARTIULAR IMPORTANCE TO INDONESIA:
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A. PRESIDENT'S TREATMENT OF VIETNAM SITUATION
INCLUDING REQUEST THAT INDONESIA JOIN USG IN CALLING
UPON HANOI TO CEASE MILITARY OPERATIONS AND HONOR
PARIS AGREEMENT, WHICH WE HAD TRANSMITTED IN NOTE;

B. HIS REFERENCE TO MEETING WITH "LEADERS" OF SEVERAL
COUNTRIES INCLUDING INDONESIA; AND,

C. HIS SUPPORT OF LEGISLATIVE ACTION TO REMOVE
EXCLUSION OF INDONESIA FROM BENEFITS OF TRADE ACT.

3. PANGGABEAN OPENED BY STRESSING THAT U.S. AND
INDONESIAN INTERESTS PARALLEL IN INDOCHINA, AND THAT
U.S. SHOULD HAVE "NO DOUBT ABOUT INDONESIAN STANCE."
PANGGABEAN SAID REQUEST MADE IN NOTE BEING CAREFULLY
CONSIDERED BY GOI. INDONESIANS FEAR, HOWEVER, THAT
SENTENCE IN PRESIDENT'S SPEECH EXPRESSING FEAR IT MAY
BE "TOO LATE" FOR CAMBODIA MAY ALSO APPLY TO VIET NAM.
"MOST IMPORTANT POINT" PANGGABEAN SAID, IS DOES USG
BELIEVE IT IS STILL "EFFECTIVE" FOR GOI TO JOIN USG
IN APPEAL TO HANOI. HE IMPLIED INDONESIA HAS
LITTLE INFLUENCE WITH HANOI WHICH CONSIDERS INDONESIA
CLEARLY IN U.S. CAMP. HE NOTED THAT INDONESIA MUST FACE
"ENEMY AT OUR DOOR" CITING RECENT AMBUSHES IN MALAYSIA
AND THAILAND AS EVIDENCE COMMUNISTS THOUGHOUT AREA
ARE RECEIVING ENCOURAGEMENT FROM EVENTS IN CAMBODIA
AND VIET NAM.

4. PANGGABEAN STATED THAT, IN STUDYING WHETHER TO JOIN
U.S. IN APPEAL TO HANOI, GOI WOULD WISH TO SEE A)
HOW SITUATION IN VIET NAM DEVELOPS, B) ACTIONS OF OTHER
SIGNATORIES OF PARIS AGREEMENT, PARTICULARLY THOSE
MEMBERS OF UN SECURITY COUNCIL, AND C) REACTION OF
CONGRESS TO PRESIDENT FORD'S REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE
TO VIET NAM. I ASKED THAT WE BE KEPT ABREAST OF
ANY CONSULTATIONS INDONESIA MIGHT HAVE WITH OTHER
SIGNATORIES, TO WHICH PANGGABEAN NODDED UNDERSTANDING.

5. I NOTED PRESIDENT HAD MADE COURAGEOUS AND
FORTHRIGHT SPEECH; HIS APPEAL FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE
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LOGICALLY MATCHED WITH APPEAL FOR PEACE; AND SITUATION
IN VIET NAM COMPLICATED, WITH POSSIBILITY MAJOR
COMMUNIST POWERS SUCH AS USSR MIGHT STILL PREFER A
NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT TO NORTH VIETNAMESE MILITARY
VICTORY. PANGGABEAN INDICATED UNDERSTANDING OF THESE
POINTS, REITERATED SIMILARITY OF INDONESIAN CONCERNS
TO THOSE OF U.S., AND PROMISED TO GIVE US REPLY IN
NEAR FUTURE. I TOLD HIM I WAS MAKING LONG PLANNED

TRIP TO KALIMANTAN APRIL 14 TO 17 AND REQUESTED REPLY
BE GIVEN DCM TOUSSAINT AS SOON AS DECISION REACHED.

6. TURNING TO BILATERAL RELATIONS PANGGABEAN, WEARING BOTH HSI FONMIN AND DEFNSE HATS, MADE A STRONG PLEAS FOR ACTION TO REMOVE EXCLUSION OF INDONESIA FROM TRADE ACT BENEFITS, AND FOR CONTINUED ECONOMIC AND MILITARY ASSISTANCE. HE ASKED THAT U.S. LOOK AT OTHER COUNTRIES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA "BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE".

7. COMMENT: IT LIKELY INDONESIA WILL, BEFORE REPLYING TO TAKING ACTION ON NOTE, AWAIT REACTIONS FROM MAJOR SIGNATORIES OF PARIS AGREEMENT AS WELL AS INITIAL REACTION OF CONGRESS TO PRESIDENTIAL REQUEST FOR FUNDS. STRESS WHICH PANGGABEAN PLACED ON SIMILARITY OF OUR INTERESTS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA, HIS HOPES FOR CONTINUED CLOSE BILATERAL RELATIONS, AS WELL AS THEIR SPECIAL PROBLEMS AND PROXIMITY TO INDOCHINA SUGGESTS THEY HOPE ANY DECISION THEY MAKE ON THIS WILL BE SEEN IN BROADER CONTEXT.

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